This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

<u>Listing of Claims</u>:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A print management system ~~in accordance with claim 8~~ <u>that allocates each print demand to one of multiple printing devices, which print an image on a medium, said print management system comprising:</u>

<u>a print demand acceptance module that receives a print demand including a printing request of an image, the printing request included in the print demand having image identification information for identifying an image to be printed, the image identification information including at least one of a file name of each image, identification information for identifying a digital camera used to record the image, date of recording the image with the digital camera, and a data size of the image;</u>

<u>a print allocation module that, in response to reception of a second print demand including a printing request of a same image as an allocated image of a printing request of the first print demand, which has already been sent to a given printer of the multiple printing devices, allocates the printing request of the second print demand to the given printer</u> ~~print demand~~, <u>retrieves a matching print demand that includes an identical image with the image of the received print demand, among print demands in an allocated state or a printed state, determines a state of a spooler of a printer to which the matching print demand has been allocated, allocates the received print demand to the printer when the spooler has any vacancy, while, when the spooler has no vacancy, waiting and allocating the received print demand to the printer after a vacancy occurs in the spooler, and sets the status of the received and allocated print demand to the allocated state; and</u>

<u>an information storage module that stores the image identification information for identifying the allocated image and the relevant printing device, to which the printing request for printing the allocated image has already been allocated,</u>

wherein each of the printing requests included in the print demand has customer identification information for identifying a customer who demands printing of an image,

said information storage module stores the customer identification information with regard to the allocated image, and

said print allocation module allocates a printing request for printing an image having an identical piece of the image identification information with the stored image identification information for identifying the allocated image and an identical piece of the customer identification information with the stored customer identification information with regard to the allocated image to the stored relevant printing device, to which the printing request for printing the allocated image has already been allocated.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A print management system ~~in accordance with claim 6~~ that allocates each print demand to one of multiple printing devices, which print an image on a medium, said print management system ~~further~~ comprising:

a print demand acceptance module that receives a print demand including a printing request of an image;

a print allocation module that, in response to reception of a second print demand including a printing request of a same image as an allocated image of a printing request of the first print demand, which has already been sent to a given printer of the multiple printing devices, allocates the printing request of the second print demand to the given printer print demand, retrieves a matching print demand that includes an identical image with the image of the received print demand, among print demands in an allocated state or a printed state, determines a state of a spooler of a printer to which the matching print demand has been allocated, allocates the received print demand to the printer when the spooler has any vacancy, while, when the spooler has no vacancy, waiting and allocating the received print demand to the printer after a vacancy occurs in the spooler, and sets the status of the received and allocated print demand to the allocated state; and

a printing request number detection module that detects a number of printing requests allocated to each of the multiple printing devices,

wherein each of the multiple printing devices accepts allocation of printing requests from said print management system to a preset number and successively executes the preset number of printing requests, and

said print allocation module allocates a printing request on the condition that any of the detected numbers of printing requests allocated to the multiple printing devices is less than the preset number.

Claim 11 (Original): A print management system in accordance with claim 10, wherein said print allocation module, when there are plural printing devices having the number of allocated printing requests less than the preset number, allocates a printing request to the printing device having a less number of allocated printing requests.

Claims 12-19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A print management method ~~in accordance with claim 18~~ that allocates each print demand to one of multiple printing devices, which print an image on a medium, said print management method ~~further~~ comprising the ~~step~~ steps of:

      (a) receiving a print demand including a printing request of an image;

      (b) in response to reception of a print demand, retrieving a matching print demand that includes an identical image with the image of the received print demand, among print demands in an allocated state or a printed state, determining a state of a spooler of a printer to which the matching print demand has been allocated, allocating the received print demand to the printer when the spooler has any vacancy, while, when the spooler has no vacancy, waiting and allocating the received print demand to the printer after a vacancy occurs in the spooler, and setting the status of the received and allocated print demand to the allocated state; and

      ~~(d)~~ (c) detecting a number of printing requests allocated to each of the multiple printing devices,

      wherein each of the multiple printing devices accepts allocation of printing requests ~~from said print management system~~ to a preset number and successively executes the preset number of printing requests, and

      said step (b) allocates a printing request on the condition that any of the detected numbers of printing requests allocated to the multiple printing devices is less than the preset number.